

Army reservists train for possible mission change

By 2nd Lt. Brooke Davis
Public Affairs

Each day hundreds of cars pass through the gates of Edwards, and airmen are not the only ones who check identification cards and car decals. Edwards currently employs 103 Army reservists from the 1st Battalion 144th Field Artillery unit out of Burbank.

The California Army National Guardsmen from the 144th were mobilized Jan. 29, and their current mission at Edwards — security — has the high potential for change.

“Our mission currently is to guard airplanes and check IDs,” said Capt. Armando Corral, 95th Security Forces Squadron Army executive officer. “If our unit becomes mobilized for a forward deployment, our mission will return to its original composition of artillery, gun crews, ballistics and forward observations. Our division could be given missions all over the world through 2005, and we have to make sure our training is current.”

During a recent week-long training exercise that started Sept. 22, the company practiced on-land navigation, map reading, handling prisoners of war, squadron

and formation movements and arm and hand signals.

“Initially the training exercises were set up for six weeks, but because of the possible mobilization, we had to postpone the second class,” said Corral. “Along with this training, we have to get up each day and perform our mission at Edwards.”

On the last day of the training exercise, Sept. 26, the company banded together for a more than 4-mile rucksack march through the base. The march included three ambushes designed to challenge recent training, including leadership lessons, according to Staff Sgt. Albert De Leon, 95th SFS Army operations and training senior instructor.

“Ambushes are the biggest problem in Iraq, and we have to be prepared for our mission as soldiers,” said De Leon. “One thing soldiers have to consider when entering a danger area is the possibility of booby traps, trip wires and land mines, especially when they are traveling on soft roads or trails. During field operations, you have to know the mission in case the squadron leader is killed.”

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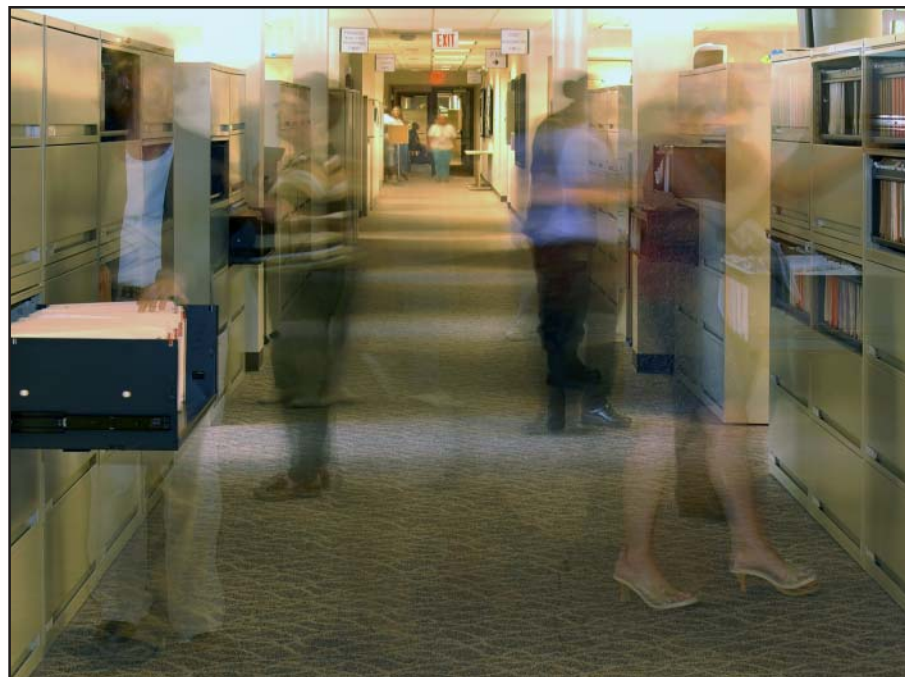


Photo by Thomas Powell

Ghosts of fiscal year past

Edwards' financial management and contracting directorate teams work briskly Tuesday to close out Fiscal Year 2003. This would not have been a success without cooperation from Team Edwards as a whole, according to the base comptroller, Anne Tedrick. “Bringing the fiscal year to a close is a team effort. Everyone in the process, from the unit boss and resource advisor to the folks in FM and contracting, plays an equal part. Of course, Sept. 29 and 30 are still our busiest days. In all, success is not measured in spending funds, but securing the best value on the highest priority requirements of the command.”

Rosamond celebrates armed forces, community pride

Cub Scout Pack 41 and Boy Scout Troop 41 pay tribute to World War II Marines by replicating the Marine Corps War Memorial on their float, which depicts Marines raising the American flag at Iwo Jima.



Photo by Robert Monroe

By Virginia Monroe
Staff Writer

Rosamond celebrated the 27th Annual William B. Ketchum Memorial Armed Forces Appreciation Day Parade on Saturday, which was hosted by the Antelope Valley Chambers of Commerce.

The parade began with the singing of the National Anthem and featured patriotic floats, marching bands, a buck wagon, pioneering families of Rosamond and antique cars.

“The parade is bigger and better than in past years,” said Sylvia Hunt, Rosamond resident.

“Our main drive behind our event is to pay tribute to our armed forces,” said Sherri Dumin, event coordinator. “We appreciate our troops; this is our community's way of saying thank you

to our armed forces for taking care of our country.”

Following the parade, there was a Septemberfest in Glendower Park.

The Rosamond festival originally began as a small gathering of family and friends coming together for a day filled with games and entertainment, explained Dumin. “Now, our festival is larger than ever with over fifty-five vendors displaying crafts and offering activities, such as face painting, games and dunking booths.”

Special events of the festival included live music, an old fashion apple pie and watermelon eating contests and a car show. Visitors were also treated to gold panning and blacksmithing demonstrations, which is a direct link to Rosamond's rich history in gold mining.

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Inside this week



Team Edwards feeds its own
The chapel food closet was set up to help those in need on base by providing canned goods.



Olympic hopeful trains here
A 15-year-old Edwards family member trains for the Olympics at the Oasis Aerobics and Aquatic Center.

Majors receive promotion



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Ad Inexplorata



Toward the unexplored



Air Force Flight Test Center Commander's Hot Topics

Preventing Violence at Home

I have formally proclaimed October as domestic violence PREVENTION month at Edwards. I want you to be aware of and I encourage you to support events and activities that emphasize preventing domestic violence. Unfortunately, domestic violence exists throughout American society, and although Edwards has a lower occurrence of domestic violence than many communities, we do have our problems. Domestic violence can be physical or verbal abuse, but it always leads victims to low self esteem, low achievement and unless the chain is broken, it will likely be passed from one generation to another. If you have been caught up in domestic violence, no matter how seemingly minor your case may be it is time to break the pattern. You can do it. We owe each member of our family the best possible healthy opportunity to prosper and grow. That begins with a safe, secure and supportive environment at home, free of verbal and physical abuse. I usually find out about an incident of domestic violence after it has occurred when somebody is arrested. At that point, I can't do much to prevent that particular occurrence, but I can, and will, hold responsible parties accountable for their actions. We have aggressive laws to deal with domestic violence, and I am not bashful in using my authority to bar very seri-

ous or repeat offenders from entry to the base. Living at Edwards is a privilege, not a right. The best course of action is for our family leaders to create an environment of open communication. When issues and disagreements arise, start a conversation, not a fight. Show your teenager how to discuss an issue, not argue. Show your spouse you want to understand his or her point of view. Lead your children to be respectful of the opinion of others by respecting their youthful opinions. Be the parent, but value their thoughts. If you just can't seem to break the chain of verbal and physical confrontations, talk with your chaplain, first sergeant, counselors at life skills or your doctor. All can refer you to appropriate places for help in making your family life more rewarding and satisfying.

Falling into Autumn

October also means the return of fall, and the arrival of activities like our Air Force anniversary ball, the two-day Open House, flu shots, the Columbus Day holiday, Halloween, then gearing up for the holidays through the end of the calendar year. In addition, October is the first month of the fiscal year; I look forward to FY04 being another spectacular year for Edwards. The F/A-22 program is progressing by leaps and

bounds, as are the many other exciting programs here. We continue delivering awesome capabilities to the Air Force — for example, the recent B-2 test dropped 80 JDAMs on a single bombing pass; each one individually targeted. That is an absolutely awesome combat capability. As you go about your daily jobs, please remember you are making history every day, every season, every year. Thanks for everything you do!

Computers — don't take them personally

Even though they're called PCs, the government-provided computers used at work and the laptops for home/travel use, are not your personal property. They are provided to you as a tool to facilitate doing your job. The Information Technology director determines the configuration of our computers, and what software/hardware will be used. You are directed and required to follow that guidance; it is not optional. Work computers are like other pieces of equipment used to get the job done, and may be used only for authorized purposes. We conduct 100 percent monitoring of every computer on our local area network; so you will eventually be caught if you're conducting inappropriate activities with a government computer. This is simply a reminder to apply

common sense and good judgment to your computer use. You are permitted to briefly view Web sites for news information, just as you'd scan a newspaper, or send a quick e-mail to a family member just as you'd make a phone call — but don't consume excessive work time doing these kinds of things. Don't let yourself get hooked on eBay all day, and don't do your personal shopping with your government computer; that's not OK. Of course, viewing or storing pornography on a government computer is always illegal. Additionally, you do not have the right to install unauthorized software on government computers. However, if you have a special need, suggestion, or good idea regarding helpful software or procedures, please share it with your unit leadership and IT. Let them determine if the software can be installed or if procedures should be modified. Please check out next week's paper for more specific guidelines on appropriate use of government computers.

DOUG PEARSON
Major General, USAF
Air Force Flight Test Center commander

Commentary

Speeding pays: an airman's response to an unwanted ticket

By Airman 1st Class Wes Auldrige
Public Affairs

"Seventy-one in a 60 mph zone. Man, I never speed on base for this reason. I took my eyes off the speedometer for one minute and he got me," I complained to my friend sitting in the seat next to me as the officer walked back to his car. Oh well, I thought, I've talked my way out of a ticket in the past, this shouldn't be any different.

As I looked in the rear view mirror, I saw the California Highway Patrolman checking my ID and talking on his radio. As he stood there in the heat, I looked behind him and thought I couldn't be more than a mile past the 'Welcome to Edwards' sign on Rosamond Boulevard. What will I say to this guy, I thought. He's got to give me a warning.

As he approached the car on the passenger side, ticket in hand, I thought I could tell him about all the speeding prevention articles I have written for the paper, and maybe he'd show some sympathy.

My friend asked him, "What is CHP doing on base?"

The officer replied, "This is part of an effort between Edwards, and the CHP to help make the local area a safer place."

I laughed a little to myself, "You know officer I wrote the article for the Desert Wings about this joint effort."

"Is that right," he said. "You were at our meeting, weren't you?"

"Yes sir I was," I replied.



Photo by Thomas Powell

Staff Sgt. Dennis Coffey (left) and Senior Airman Sean Neisen enforce base speed limits.

"Great!" he said, as if he was genuinely happy to see an old friend again. "Anyway, here is your ticket," he continued as he handed me my doom, destroying any aspirations of avoiding this misfortune. At that moment the reality hit — friends of mine were passing and laughing at me as I sat on the side of the road ... how humiliating!

The next day I was completely bummed out. I hadn't gotten a ticket in five years. My record was clean. What should I do?

I asked my co-workers and friends about the best route to take. Should I go to court and explain to the judge I am not a law breaker and I am truly sorry for my crime? Should I go to traffic school and relearn the fundamentals of

driving? Should I just pay the ticket? There was one thing, no matter what option I picked, that stood out in my mind ... this was going to cost me.

That's what it comes down to. My time and money will be spent to fix this problem.

As soon as I saw the speed limit sign, I should have stopped my conversation and set my cruise control; or at least watched the speedometer more closely. No matter where I try and place the blame — "I was driving a friend's car and wasn't used to the acceleration, I was going down a slight hill and picked up speed without knowing, or I wasn't in hurry ... I wasn't consciously breaking the law" — it was still my fault and I'm guilty.

Citations given in August

Sixty-four citations were issued for speeding. The majority issued were for 11 to 15 mph over the speed limit. Total fines were \$16,118. One person lost driving privileges for one year for speeding 25 mph over the posted limit. The majority of citations issued were on Rosamond Boulevard between the base property line and the west gate.

Maj. Gen. Pearson's speeding policy will not change, because he'll never alter his concern for everyone's safety, as the CHP will attest to. So, I have to change and be the one responsible for my actions.

On the other hand, I am thankful I wasn't going even faster than I was. Being at Edwards without driving privileges is not the best position to be in. And I'd never forgive myself if my speeding took away precious seconds I might need to react to some unknown road hazard, endangering not only my passenger and me, but other innocent people.

For those of you who learn from other's mistakes, remember this — speeding pays. The difference is, you aren't the one receiving the money, you are the one paying. And for those of you who are going to speed regardless of what anyone says, your day is coming. You can only speed for so long before you get caught. And when you do, I hope you are not going too fast, because in the words of the commander, "it's a looong walk."



Army National Guard prepares to move out

From ARMY, Page 1

The rucksack march led the two-man columns through 'hot' areas where the company expected frequent ambushes and leadership changes — the march started at Camp Corum and finished at Edwards Clinic.

During the planned ambushes, the squadron and team leaders were 'killed' in order to switch leadership and create a realistic training environment, explained Capt. Robert Frias, 95th SFS Army company commander.

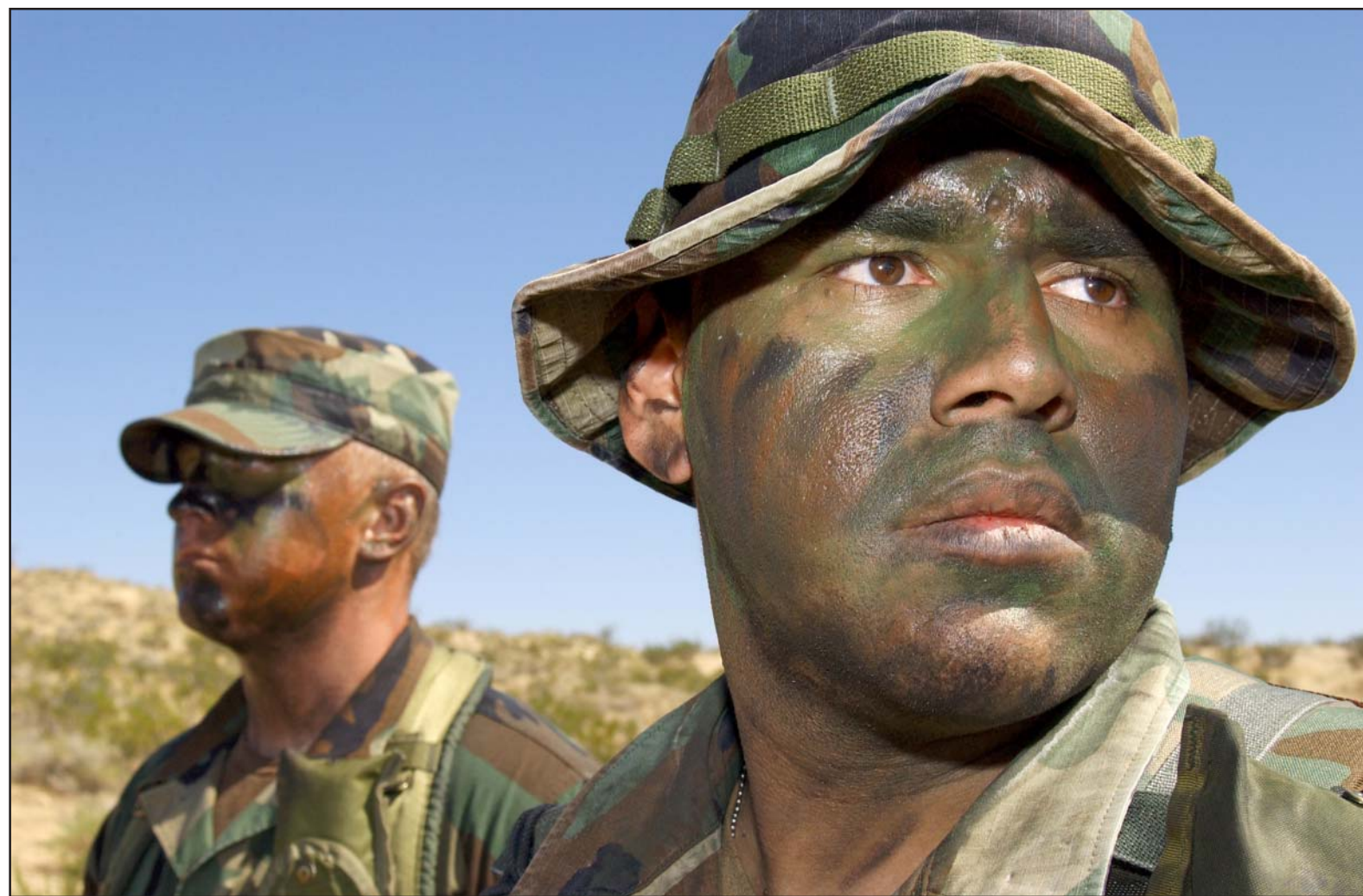
"The complexity of managing action created by the ambushes and making quick decisions is not so much demonstrated by the rucksack march, but by the changes in leadership," said Frias. "They need to establish a chain of command to ensure leadership remains intact despite ambushes."

During the first ambush, Sgt. 1st Class Perry Branch, 95th SFS Army platoon leader, played a POW aggressor.

"In this mission, the company isn't taking any POWs and needs to know how to handle the situation," said Branch. "I'm also a distraction so the sniper can ambush them when they're not ready."

Next, the company was ambushed by a sniper simulating gunfire by shouting, "bang, bang, bang!" The team suffered a few casualties' after splitting up to find the sniper. The remaining soldiers captured the sniper. After each ambush, De Leon and other instructors reviewed lessons learned from the exercises.

"The last two ambushes went very well and the squad was able to over-run the opposing force



Photos by Thomas Powell

Army Spc. Luis Castillo (right) and Spc. Reginald Flanagan (left) listen to training instructors evaluate their actions after an ambush.

positions," said De Leon. "All the soldiers completed the road march carrying 45 pounds each, and no injuries or foot problems were reported."

The company has six more classes to complete, which will start in November. Future training exercises include weapons qualification (M-16A2, M-9), chemical and biological hazard scenarios, evaluation of casualties, first aid and individual

fighting positions demonstrations.

Before activation, the unit manned an artillery system called the M109A5 SP 155 millimeter self-propelled howitzer. A crew of four people operates the howitzer, which is an armored full-tracked artillery system capable of carrying two copperhead and 37 complete conventional rounds, according to Corral.



Above: Army Spc. Reginald Flanagan runs for cover during the sniper ambush.

Left: Army Staff Sgt. Albert De Leon, 95th Security Forces Squadron Army operations and training senior instructor, goes over M18A1 Claymore land mine training as a refresher before the exercise starts.





FTAC transitions new airmen to operational Air Force

By Airman 1st Class Mark Woodbury
Public Affairs

The First-term Airmen Center orientation is designed to help new airmen transition to the realities of the operational Air Force.

From educating airmen on the organizational structure at Edwards, to helping them understand services and regulations that will affect their career, FTAC is structured to transition airmen from a training environment to a mission-oriented posture, while reinforcing all the learning and experience gained through basic training and technical school.

The Air Force realized that first-term airmen often have questions and concerns with their transition to the Air Force way of life. For this reason, the Air Force implemented the FTAC program under Air Force Instruction 36-2252, providing airmen an avenue to voice these concerns and better understand where to go to get these concerns taken care of.

"New airmen are often overwhelmed with the transition into the Air Force. Many airmen are leaving home for the first time, and now have to worry about financial obligations of their own," said Tech. Sgt. Kenneth Green, NCO in charge



Photo by Airman 1st Class Mark Woodbury

Chief Master Sgt. Willie Goodwin (right), 412th Test Wing superintendant, and Col. Charles Davis, 412th TW commander, answer questions from the FTAC class.

and facilitator over the FTAC program. "Airmen also have many questions on how to best handle their careers, and what avenues are available to help them. These

worries can lead to new airmen not being as effective as they need to be and ultimately not reenlisting."

FTAC has made it a priority to help

first-term airmen identify where to go to fix problems when they first appear.

"I think the best thing I learned while going through FTAC is that the officers and the senior NCOs at the command level are concerned about my well-being," said Airman Melissa Berry, 95th Aerospace Medical Squadron public health technician.

"I feel better knowing that my concerns and questions are a concern for the leadership at Edwards. I know now my questions can be answered, and more importantly, where I need to go to get them answered. For a first-term airman, these simple ideas make all of the difference."

FTAC is also an excellent way for new airmen to meet people they would not regularly be associated with.

"I was able to make friendships with people I never would have met had it not been for FTAC. I know this seems small, but when you get to know people from different career fields, you start to appreciate the work they do for your benefit. It helps you better understand the Edwards team concept," said Berry.

The next scheduled FTAC orientation is Oct. 27. Sign up through your orderly room.



CAC; not just another ID card

Master Sgt. Janet Bazile-Bajkowski
Air Force Communications Agency

Have people ever wondered whether their e-mail system is really secure? Or whether an e-mail they received actually came from the person identified on the "From:" line? Or whether someone could have intercepted and altered e-mail, and sent the revised version?

The Air Force has found a "smarter" way to strengthen e-mail security by implementing a new Department of Defense technology called public key infrastructure to enhance Information Assurance cryptographic functions. Leading the implementation is the Air Force's PKI System Program Office, in the Network Services Division, Electronic Systems Center, Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass.

A key element of PKI is the common access card, which is replacing older identification cards throughout the Air Force. In addition to a person's name and photo, the credit card sized CAC has an integrated circuit chip, magnetic strip, bar code and other information. The individual's computer will be equipped with a special CAC card reader that will be used to, among other things, logon, encrypt or encode e-mail, and electronically "sign" documents. When card holders insert their CAC into the

card reader, they'll enter a personal identification number to gain access, and then click the appropriate icon for various functions, such as digital signature or encryption. After e-mail is encrypted, it may only be deciphered and read by the intended recipient, effectively ensuring secure communication. Another security feature is the data integrity system, which issues a warning when an e-mail message has been altered — whether intentionally or unintentionally.

The CAC's integrated circuit chip contains three embedded PKI certificates that allow the users to perform various functions.

- The identity certificate allows them to digitally sign DoD documents and authenticate secure Web access.
- The e-mail signature certificate permits members to electronically sign e-mail messages.
- The e-mail encryption certificate allows people to encrypt and decrypt messages.

Although the PKI program and CACs will take some time and effort to fully implement, the Air Force and individual users will be well rewarded with a system that affords greater protection for sensitive Air Force information transmitted in e-mail messages.

(Article courtesy of the Air Force Flight Test Center Information Assurance office)



New telemetry system completes first flight test

Team Edwards accomplished another first Sept. 18 as the B-1 Joint Air to Surface Missile and Joint Standoff Weapon I test team completed the first-ever operational aircraft flight test mission using Feher's Quadrature Phase Shift Keying modulation.

This Advanced Range Telemetry program is a Joint Service Modernization Program sponsored by the Office of the Secretary of Defense; Director, Operational Test and Evaluation and Central Test and Evaluation Investment Program. ARTM was conceived to improve the efficiency, quality, utility and availability of Department of Defense aeronautical telemetry spectrum.

The FQPSK transmitter pallet was recently installed on B1-B 068, in the JASSM re-rad system. The re-rad system receives the S-band wide-bandwidth high-bit-rate data from the internally-carried missile and re-transmits the data in L-band using FQPSK at a significantly reduced telemetry bandwidth. The system recently passed several ground tests and then flew its first live mission Sept. 18. The instrumentation experts at the B-1 Combined Test Force built and installed the FQPSK pallet with a four-man team, including help from the

ARTM program team that assisted with testing of the pallet in the ARTM Lab. The ARTM Integration and Support program led the effort to integrate FQPSK capabilities into the Edwards range and assisted in coordination of support for this mission.

The FQPSK transmitter performed flawlessly and did its job of cutting the transmission bandwidth in half required (for the same bit rate) compared to the traditional PCM/FM modulation technology. In fact, this mission would not otherwise have been possible in L-band due to the large bandwidth required by PCM/FM.

The B-1 team is so pleased with this test that they now intend to install additional FQPSK re-rad pallets on another B-1 in the near future. The ARTM program is also working with the F/A-22, X-35 Joint Strike Fighter, Navy F/A-18 and the Missile Defense Agency on efforts to validate the benefit of using FQPSK on their flight vehicles.

For more information about FQPSK telemetry, call Michelle Caldera, the ARTM I and S program manager, at 277-3163 or Bob Selbrede, the ARTM I and S lead engineer, at 277-1179.

(Article courtesy of 412th Test Wing)



Photo by Thomas Powell

Joining the club

A newly promoted Edwards staff sergeant looks at the certificate awarded him at the NCO and SNCO induction ceremony Wednesday morning at Club Muroc. The ceremony commemorates the advances in the careers of those honored.

Edwards majors receive promotion

Edwards officials announced Thursday the names of 16 majors who will receive a promotion to lieutenant colonel. The officers selected:



- Troy Asher, 419th Flight Test Squadron
 - Tuck Boyson, Air Force Research Laboratory
 - Jamie Brady, 95th Mission Support Squadron
 - Gerald Colmer, Jr. 416th Flight Test Squadron
 - Christopher Dobb, 418th Flight Test Squadron
 - Brian Ewert, U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School
 - Eric Gilliland, 31st Test Evaluation Squadron
 - Steven Hurteau, 31st TES
 - Kevin Huyuck, 31st TES
 - Colin Miller, 411th Flight Test Squadron
 - Michael Reddoch, 18th Space Control Squadron
 - Constance Schlaefer, AFRL
 - Robert Sowers, Air Force Operational Test Evaluation Center
 - Robbin Vaughn, 412th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
 - Jeffery Wharton, 419th FLTS
 - Timothy Williams, 452nd Flight Test Squadron
- (Information provided by military promotions section)*



Briefs

A retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Timothy Palen is today, noon in the Conference Center Looking Glass Room. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Gary Shirley at 277-4751.

A retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Hugh Groody is today, 2 p.m. in the Heritage Room of building 1633. Refreshments will be served after the ceremony. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Darrin Armstrong at 277-1507.

The Air Force climate survey began Wednesday and continues through Nov. 23. The climate survey is used to improve areas of the Air Force including operations and quality of life. The survey takes about 30 minutes and can be found at the Web site afclimatesurvey.af.mil. The site is not .mil restricted. For more information, call Greg McCutcheon at 275-9156.

A retirement ceremony for Tech. Sgt. Terence Vickers is Oct. 10, 11 a.m. in the Conference Center Galaxy Room. Lt. Col. Scott Davis will officiate. Dress is uniform of the day. For more information, call Master Sgt. Daryl Shaw at 275-3653.

All foreign visitors must be approved by the Air Force Flight Test Center Foreign Disclosure office before access to the base is granted. The processing of foreign visit requests requires a 30-day advance notice. For more information, call the FDO at 277-7451.

The National Personnel Records Center now requires at least six months from the date of the service member's retirement before submitting an SF-813, verification of non-wartime campaigns and expeditions. NPRC will return without action any SF-813's submitted early.

President Bush and the Congress have recently authorized three new medals to recognize members of the Armed Forces; the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary

Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal and Korea Defense Service Medal.

Employees who wish to claim veterans' preference or

service credit should submit official documentations showing the award of the appropriate medal to the Civilian Personnel Office. For more information, call Lucian Carlson at 277-3840.

Air Force Ball set for Oct. 17 in Lancaster

Edwards is holding a formal ball Oct. 17, 6 p.m. at the Park Plaza at 44916 10th Street West in Lancaster.

Ticket prices for the event are; E-1 through E-4, GS 1 through 4, NK-I, NJ-I, NH-I, WG 1 through 5, WL 1 through 5, \$15; E-5 and E-6, GS-5 and 6, WG-6 through 10, WS-1 through 5, NK-II, NJ-II, \$20; E-7, O-1 and O-2, GS-7 and 8, WL-6 through 10, NK-III, NH-II, DR-1,

\$25; E-8 and E-9, O-3, GS-9 through

11, WG-11 through 15, WL-

11 through 15, WS-6

through 10, NJ-III, DR-

2, \$30; O-4 and O-5, GS-

12 and 13, WS-11

through 19, NH-III, NJ-

IV, DR-3, \$35; O-6

through O-10, GS-14

and 15, NH-IV, DR-4,

\$40.

The points of contact are;

for the Air Force Flight Test Center,

Senior Airman Linda Sanchez at 277-3997;

for the 95th Air Base Wing, Master Sgt. Rosemary

Brown at 277-3327; for the 412th Operations Group, 2nd Lt. Alicia Modzelewski at 275-6653; for the 412th Maintenance Group, Tech. Sgt. Albert Valdes, at 277-6314, Tech. Sgt. Chonthicha Lane at 277-5081 or Senior Airman Tyell Foy at 277-0598.

Seating is limited so getting tickets early is suggested. The deadline for purchasing tickets is Thursday.

A list of child care providers, willing to watch children during the event, will be published in next week's Desert Wings.

The dress for the event is semi-formal or mess dress for military and suitable evening attire for civilians.





CDC canned food drive: lessons in caring through sharing

By Virginia Monroe
Staff Writer

As the season of giving approaches, Team Edwards is reminded of the spirit of sharing through the efforts of the Child Development Center.

The CDC is having their annual canned food drive now through Oct. 31 and using their campaign to not only help the Edwards community, but to also teach children at the center about the meaning of giving.

The food drive is more than just a collection of canned goods, explained Theresa Magana, administrative clerk. "We incorporate all our efforts into the classrooms to let the children be a part of it," said Magana.

"By involving the children, we are teaching them about caring for other people who are less fortunate than they are," said Kim Richardson, program supervisor.

According to Magana, there are many military families here in need of extra food for their families, especially during the holiday season.

The food collected through the CDC will be given to the base chapel airman's food closet, which



Photo by Thomas Powell

Children from the Child Development Center put canned goods in a barrel. The children are participating in a canned good food drive to help refill the base chaplain's food closet.

is a program available to service members experiencing financial hardship and looking for assistance in obtaining food items.

"The food closet serves numerous families on Edwards from both the Air Force and Marine Corp," said Airman Nancy Guynn, chap-

lain assistant.

In order to use the food closet, military members must be referred to the food closet by their first ser-

geant. Upon gaining a referral, the military member is then allowed to collect two bags of food at no cost to the service member.

Though the food being collected is mostly canned items, the CDC will accept all non-perishable items. Those interested in making a donation can drop food off at either the CDC or the base chapel.

"Whatever people can donate will be greatly appreciated," said Richardson. "It's about giving of your heart freely and caring for others."

Just as the youngest people on Edwards are learning about true acts of kindness, so too, is the Edwards community reminded of the importance of helping each other, Richardson said.

"I think about the 'what if' situation," said Guynn. "What if it were my family members who needed extra help? I would feel better knowing they had a source of assistance."

"We're Team Edwards; we have to take care of each other," said Guynn.

For more information about the canned food drive, call Richardson or Magana at 275-8687. If you would like to learn more about the airman's food closet, call the chapel at 277-2110.

Fire Prevention Week: when fire strikes ... get out, stay out

Edwards' Fire Department is reaching out to residents here Sunday through Oct. 11 with a week-long campaign designed to save lives and prevent injuries by teaching important information about having smoke alarms and fire escape drills.

Fire Prevention Week is the basis for public fire safety awareness activities in fire departments and elementary schools across North America. The 2003 Fire Prevention Week theme, "When fire strikes: Get out! Stay out!" is a lifesaving reminder to leave right away when the smoke alarm goes off, and to stay out until firefighters say it is safe to go back inside.

"This Fire Prevention Week, we are concentrating our efforts on making sure residents understand they need working smoke alarms on every level of their home, and they should plan ahead of time how they would get out if fire strikes and practice that plan regularly," said Stephen Roell, the department's technical services division assistant chief. "Having early warning of a fire, and following a well-practiced escape plan to get out quickly — and staying out — can make the difference between surviving a fire and dying in one."

To reach residents with these lifesaving messages, the fire department is joining forces with the National Fire Protection Association — the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week for more than 80 years. Half of all fatal home fires occur in the small number of homes that have no smoke alarms ac-



Photo by Thomas Powell

Doug Mendez, Edwards firefighter, checks his fire safety equipment to ensure he is prepared.

cording to NFPA.

Judy Comoletti, NFPA assistant vice president for public education, says many people overestimate the amount of time they may have to get out of a fire.

"A fire can become deadly in moments, making every second count," said Comoletti. That's why we're working with groups like Edwards' Fire Department to raise awareness of the importance of installing smoke alarms and planning and practicing fire drills."

According to Roell, the Fire Prevention

Week 2003 advice is simple:

- Install working smoke alarms on each level of the home, and test them monthly to ensure they are working; replace batteries at least annually
- Develop a thorough fire escape plan and practice it by holding fire drills twice a year; make sure you know two ways out of every room
- Teach everyone in your household that once they are out, they must stay out until firefighters say it is safe to go back inside; get out first, then call the fire department

Joining the Edwards Fire Department and NFPA in the Fire Prevention Week effort are Pella Corporation and the Home Safety Council, organizations that are underwriting an educational outreach program through *Weekly Reader* reaching more than 9 million students in kindergarten through grade three.

A worldwide leader in public safety, NFPA has been providing fire, building, electrical, and life safety information to the public since 1896. The mission of the international non-profit organization is to reduce the worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating scientifically-based consensus codes and standards, research, training and education.

The Home Safety Council, an independent charitable organization founded by Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse in 1993, is inspiring, educating and activating society to practice better home safety to prevent injuries and save lives. The Home Safety Council Web site is www.homesafetycouncil.org.

Pella Corporation is recognized in the window and door industry for its technology and innovation, having been awarded more than 100 U.S. product and design patents. Pella's support of Fire Prevention Week is part of its year-round home fire safety and awareness program.

For more information about Fire Prevention Week, log on to the official Web site at www.firepreventionweek.org.

(Article courtesy of Edwards Fire Department)



Parade honors, supports troops at Edwards

From PARADE, Page 1

According to Dumin, Rosamond's Armed Forces Appreciation Day Parade was initially spearheaded by Honorary Mayor of Rosamond, Gary Hall, in 1976 as a tribute to veterans residing in Rosamond and the towns close proximity to Edwards.

Dumin explained that William B. Ketchum, a Congressman representing Kern and Tulare counties, was so impressed with Rosamond's efforts to honor the military he campaigned to have the event permanently recorded in the Congressional Record as an official annual Rosamond celebration.

As a direct result of Ketchum's efforts, the event was renamed commemorating the Congressman, who was also a veteran of World War II and the Korean War.

This year's event celebrated its original objective to provide quality family entertainment while showing support for our military community — those who are defending our freedom, Edward Cole, Rosamond's current Honorary Mayor.

TRICARE vision benefits to "see double"

TRICARE offers vision benefits under the regular TRICARE package and under the Clinical Preventive Services benefits.

TRICARE regular vision benefits allows active duty members one comprehensive eye examination each calendar year. This examination may include a check of the internal and external structures of the eye for eye disease and other diseases and evaluation of vision. A TRICARE network optometrist or ophthalmologist provides the exam for Prime members.

The annual eye exams are provided by a TRICARE network or TRICARE certified provider for Standard or Extra beneficiaries, and if the exam is available and performed at a military treatment facility, there is no cost-share for Standard or Extra beneficiaries.

Other TRICARE beneficiaries, including retirees, retiree family members, TRICARE for Life, are not covered by this benefit.

Clinical Preventive Services Eye Exams

The vision benefits provided under Clinical Preventive Services divide members by age group; meaning eye exams for children and eye exams for adults.

For TRICARE Prime children:

- Eye and vision screening by the Primary Care Manager during routine exams at birth and six months. Comprehensive eye exams once every two years beginning at age 3.
- Two comprehensive eye exams by a specialist (ophthalmologist or optometrist) including screening for amblyopia (vision loss) and strabismus (cross eye) between 3 to 6 years of age.
- There is no copayment for these exams.

For TRICARE Standard and Extra children:

- Eye and vision screening by a TRICARE-certified pro-

vider during routine exams at birth, 6 months, 3 years and 5 years of age.

- One comprehensive eye exam by a specialist (ophthalmologist or optometrist) including screening for amblyopia (vision loss) and strabismus (cross eye) between 3 to 6 years of age.
 - Beneficiaries are responsible for the applicable cost-shares and deductibles.
- #### For TRICARE PrimeAdults
- One comprehensive eye exam including screening for visual acuity and glaucoma every two years between the ages of 18 and 64. The vision screening benefit also applies for beneficiaries above the age of 64 who continue to be eligible under TRICARE Prime.
 - Diabetic patients are covered for a comprehensive eye exam yearly.
 - Self-referral to a network TRICARE optometrist or ophthalmologist will be allowed for comprehensive eye examinations.

Other Important Information

For TRICARE Prime members, the eye exams must be provided by a TRICARE network optometrist or ophthalmologist, in order to avoid point of service charges.

A referral or preauthorization is not required for eye exams. However, if you need treatment for a medical eye condition (such as glaucoma), a referral or preauthorization is needed before you receive these services.

Also, keep in mind that prescription eyeglasses, contacts, and other corrective lenses, as well as LASIK surgery are not covered by TRICARE.

For more information on TRICARE vision benefits, call (800) 242-6788 or visit www.hnfs.net.



Desert Tortoise Awareness Training required for off-roaders

By Robert Monroe
Environmental Management

Desert Tortoise Awareness Training is required for all Team Edwards members and guests who wish to operate off-road vehicles in off-road vehicle area two on base.

ORV area two is the only area on base authorized for ORV use, aside from the Desert Wheels Motorcycle Club's track.

Area two is a limited-use area, which means riders must stay on existing trails and roads. It is located off of Landfill Road and Forbes Avenue, behind the horse riding stables, and west of housing Areas F, G and I. Dirt bikes, dual-sport bikes — off-highway motorcycles that are street legal — along with three- and four-wheel all-terrain vehicles are all authorized to operate in area two.

Desert Tortoise Awareness Training is provided by Environmental Management to educate ORV operators on Air Force rules and regulations that protect desert tortoises and conserve the base's natural resources. The training is used to help riders understand their role and responsibilities when using this area.

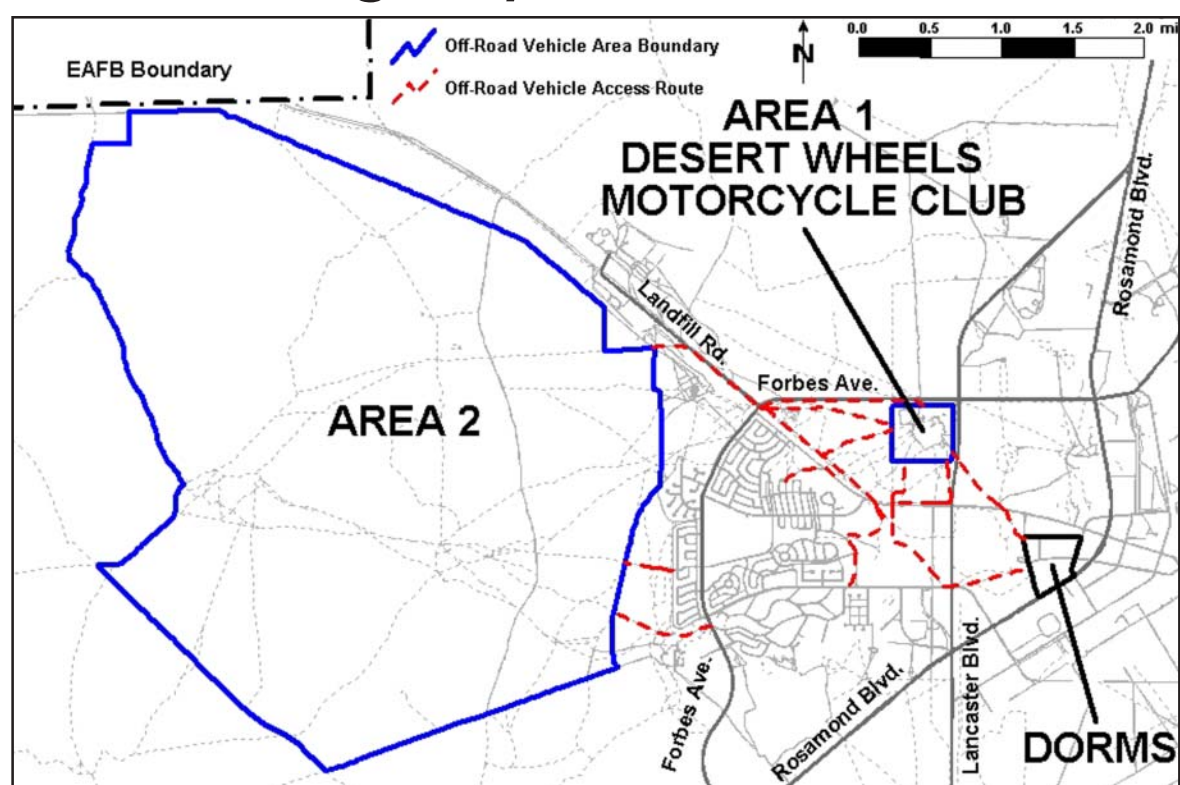
Topics covered include gen-

eral information on the biology and behavior of desert tortoises, their listing as both a state and federal "Threatened" species, and what riders should do if they encounter one. In addition, the training offers protective measures that must be followed while riding in area two.

Desert tortoises can be found throughout the undeveloped areas on base and all personnel should be cautious when driving on paved roads, as well as unpaved trails. To protect the desert tortoise and their natural habitat, riders must remain on designated access routes to and from the ORV areas and ride only on existing authorized trails within the ORV area boundaries. The trails in this area include many hills and curves. Riders are advised to approach intersections with caution at reduced speeds and watch for desert animals that may be crossing the trails.

Area two is a multi-use area shared by many recreational enthusiasts. To ensure the safety and enjoyment of all users, riders must slow their ORV to a safe speed of 15 mph or less within 200 feet of any hiker, bicyclist or runner.

When an ORV approaches a person riding a horse, the ORV op-



Courtesy graphics

erator must give the right-of-way to the horse rider and stop a minimum of 100 feet away, allowing the horse and rider to pass before continuing.

All who receive Desert Tortoise Awareness Training must sign a statement that they have read, un-

derstand, and will follow the protective measures while riding in the ORV areas. Copies of these statements are kept on file at the Environmental Management Office, building 2650A. Those violating the ORV area rules risk having their ORV privileges revoked

and other penalties.

Desert Tortoise Awareness Training is valid for five years. After that a refresher course is required. For more information or to schedule Desert Tortoise Awareness Training, call Environmental Management at 277-1401 or 275-2435.



Community Events & Announcements

Correction:

The article titled *Jewish High Holy Days begin today* that ran in the Sept. 26 issue of the Desert Wings had incorrect author information. The byline was given to Capt. Mark Weiner, 412th Flight Test Squadron. The correct authors are Rabbi Alan Henkin and Rabbi Rick Schechter of Congregation Beth Knesset Bamidbar.

Upcoming & ongoing

The Blacks in Government monthly meeting is hosting Les Bordelon, Air Force Flight Test Center executive director, Thursday, 11 a.m., in the Alliance Room at Club Muroc. The meeting will highlight equal opportunity, racism and racial discrimination, and professional education and training. The lunch menu includes a chef salad or chicken platter. For more information, call Betty Ellis 277-2749.

Hispanic Dance sponsored by the Desert Hispanic Association is Oct. 11, 8 p.m. to midnight at Stripes Lounge. Cost is \$5. For more information, call Yoli Martinez at 277-2305.

Make a Difference Day is Oct. 18, 8 a.m., in the Family Support Center. Volunteers are needed. Anyone who can help hammer, paint and clean up Edwards to make it a better place to work, play and live are invited to sign up at the Family Support Center or call 277-0723. Letters of appreciation are authorized for volunteers participating in this event.

Volunteers are needed for a food booth at the Open House Oct. 25 and 26 sponsored by the Air Force Sergeant's Association. The proceeds from the booth will be used to help support various base and community projects. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Sevag Ekmekjian at 275-1087 or e-mail sevag.ekmekjian@edwards.af.mil.

Desert High School yearbooks for the 2002-2003 school year are on sale for \$55 until Nov. 21. For more information, call Emilia Henry at 258-4411 ext. 155.

Ongoing construction on Rosamond Boulevard will continue until Nov. 28, causing anticipated delays. Team Edwards members are expected to adjust their departure times from home to account for delays of approximately 20 to 30 minutes at the gates. For more information, call George Galentine at 275-2192.

Senior ads for the 2003-2004 Desert High School yearbooks are now on-sale. Prices for color pages: \$50 for business card size ad, \$75 for a quarter page ad, \$150 for a half page ad and \$200 for a full page ad. Prices for black and white pages: \$25 for business card size ad, \$50 for a quarter page ad, \$100 a half page ad and \$150 for a full page ad. For more information on purchasing an ad, call Emilia Henry at 258-4411 ext. 155.

On-base activities & news

APET Rescue and Kennels

615 S. Forbes Ave. 275-2423

A volunteer training seminar is Sunday, 4 p.m. and Oct. 20, 6 p.m. at APET. Those interested in attending should call APET in advance to sign-up.

APET needs volunteers for the Make a Difference Day Oct. 18. Call the Family Support Center to sign up.

A pet costume contest and pumpkin patch will be available at the Haunted Hay and Pony Rides Oct. 18, 6:30 p.m. at the riding stables. Pre-registration is required. For more information, call APET.

APET is the base's resource center for military members with pets who are departing Edwards. Stop by APET for information on hotels that allow pets, or for any other information about the APET volunteer program.

APET of the Week



Photo by Thomas Powell

Mia is looking for a new home. She is a tortoiseshell calico that is spayed and current on all shots. APET volunteers describe her as friendly and affectionate.

Chapels

Chapel 1: 15 N. Popson Ave.

Chapel 2: 10 Park Drive, 277-2110

Jewish High Holiday service schedule at the Congregation Beth Knesset Bamidbar in Lancaster is Sunday and Monday. The days events include a Sunday Erev Yom Kippur service at 8 p.m., and Monday Yom Kippur service is at 10 a.m., family service is at 1:30 p.m., Minchah is at 3 p.m., Yizkor service is at 4:30 p.m., Ne'ilah is at 5:30 p.m. and Break-the-Fast is at 6:30 p.m. (reservations required). The synagogue is located at 1611 E. Ave. J in Lancaster. For more information, call Capt. Mark Weiner at 277-0334 or the synagogue at 942-4415.

The 2003 Promise Keepers conference in Las Vegas is Oct. 17 and 18. All base affiliated men are invited to attend. For more information or to sign up, call Ralph Cantrell at 277-3454 or the chapel.

Church services

Protestant Sunday worship services: Liturgical, 8 a.m., Chapel 2; traditional Protestant, 11 a.m., Chapel 2; and praise and worship, 10:45 a.m., Chapel 1.

Catholic weekend masses are Saturday, 5 p.m., Chapel 1, and Sunday, 9:30 a.m., Chapel 2.

Catholic weekday masses are Monday through Thursday, 11:30 a.m., and communion services Friday, 11:30 a.m., Chapel 2.

Bible studies, small groups

Men's Prayer Breakfast is Saturday, 7:30 a.m., at the Chapel 1 Annex.

Protestant Women of the Chapel breakfast is Saturday, 8:30 a.m., in the Chapel 1 Annex. All women are invited to come and listen to Chaplain (Maj.) Gary Goodlin speak about dealing with grief.

Sacrament of Reconciliation is Saturday, 4:15 to 4:45 p.m., Chapel 1. Call for an appointment.

Single airmen's group is Sunday, 3 p.m., at Chaplain (Capt.)

Greg Brunson's house. Call the chapel for directions.

Women's and children's bible study is Thursday, 9 a.m. to 11 p.m., at Chapel 1 annex.

Child Development Center

1208 W. Fitz-Gerald Blvd., 275-TOTS

Parent and staff work day is Saturday, 8 a.m. to noon. Parents are welcome to work with the staff to enhance the Child Development Center environment.

A pumpkin patch is opening for children Wednesday. Children are invited to select a pumpkin and take it home.

The annual canned food drive is ongoing through Oct. 31. This is an opportunity to help those in need in the community. Canned or boxed food items may be dropped off in the box in the CDC lobby.

Children's Library

1100 Kincheloe Ave., 275-READ

The toddler Christmas performance practice is Wednesday, 10:30 a.m., at the Children's Library. Sign ups are being taken at the library for toddlers ages 3 to 5 to learn a song and dance for the Christmas party. Practice is every Wednesday throughout the month. The sessions will last for a half an hour.

The essay contest, titled "Why I want to Fly," deadline for submissions is Oct. 17. The Children's Library invites youngsters, ages 8 to 17, to submit an essay, approximately 50 to 100 words, explaining why the child wants a career in aviation. The prizes for the contest will be a chance for a flight with Maj. Gen. Doug Pearson, Air Force Flight Test Center commander, at the Aero Club. Thirty children will be selected.

Club Muroc

275 Manzanita Way, 275-CLUB

Mongolian barbecue is offered today at the club. Meal includes a choice of 4 ounces of pork, beef or chicken and a side of vegetables. Cost is \$7.95 for members, \$9.95 for eligible non-members. Add additional ounces of meat for \$.95 per ounce.

Steak and lobster nights are today and Saturday in the Corum Room. Dinner includes an 8-ounce sirloin steak, 6-ounce Canadian lobster tail, baked potato, fresh vegetables and soup or salad. Cost is \$20 per person.

Midweek member madness is Wednesday, 5 to 6 p.m. in Fogleman's and Pancho's lounges. Menu items offered will vary between deli sandwiches, pizza, pasta and tacos. This social hour event is free and open to members only.

A travel-the-world-on-us membership drive, which promotes a chance for new and current club members to win a vacation, ends Oct. 31. More than 140 vacations will be awarded. Destinations include, but are not limited to, Paris, London, Rome, Cancun, Mexico, Hawaii and the World Series. Winners will be able to select their own destination. Call the club for more information.

Family Support Center

350 S. Bailey Ave., 277-0723

Couples communication class is today, 3 to 4 p.m. This class provides couples with increased active listening skills and enhanced communication.

The Women, Infants and Children nutrition program is Monday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call for more information.

Hearts Apart bowling is Monday, 5 to 7 p.m. This is an activity group for friends and family of members who are deployed or on remote tour. Children are welcome.

Spouse/local employment is Tuesday, 9:30 to 11 a.m. This job-seeking orientation is for spouses and others, and includes information on looking for a job in the local area.

See ANNOUNCEMENTS, Page 12

DESERT WINGS

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Editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Edwards Air Force Base. All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated.

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Lancaster, CA, 93535 (661)945-5634. Submitting false or misleading advertisements may, depending on circumstances, subject the violator for administrative or criminal penalties for civil suit.

Deadline for all other *DESERT WINGS* submissions is Friday at noon preceding the desired publication date. All submissions must be e-mailed to afftc.pa.desertwings@edwards.af.mil or submitted on a computer disk in a Word or plain text document format. No handwritten material will be accepted.

Letters to the editor are encouraged. Send to: AFFTC/PAI, 1 S. Rosamond Blvd., Edwards AFB, CA 93524-1225 Attn: Editor. Letters are subject to editing.

Announcements

From Page 11

Parenting class is Tuesday, 3 to 4:30 p.m. Parents can learn different styles, developmental stages, discipline and more.

Department of Labor Transition Assistance Program is Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. This class is open to all transitioning members to include Department of Defense civilians and spouses. The class covers all aspects of a job search, Veterans Affairs and medical record review.

Spouse welcome is Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Come meet other new spouses and get information on base resources. The class is followed by a van tour of Lancaster and Palmdale. A free lunch is provided.

Pre-deployment briefing is Wednesday, 11 to 11:30 a.m. This class is mandatory for those deploying or going on extended temporary duty or remote tours. Call for an appointment.

Thrift Savings Plan class is Wednesday, 2 to 3:30 p.m. The Thrift Savings Plan is a federal government sponsored retirement savings and investment plan. Come find out how this plan can benefit the member and family.

Mandatory pre-separation counseling is Thursday, 9 to 11 a.m. for separates, and 1 to 3 p.m. for retirees. Counseling is required by law for active duty members no more than 12 months or less than 90 days prior to separation or retirement.

The Family Support Center is open Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Reservations must be made for all center classes, seminars and workshops. Call the FSC to sign up.

Information, Tickets and Travel

1100 Kincheloe Ave., 275-TRIP

L.A. County Fair discounted tickets are now available at ITT.

Cher's farewell tour tickets are also now available at ITT.

Las Vegas turnaround is Saturday. The trip departs at noon from ITT and returns at 7 a.m. on Sunday. Cost is \$28 per person. Members must be 18 years old or older.

Boom Boom Huck Jam is Oct. 11 at the Staples Center in Los Angeles. The ITT bus will depart at 4 p.m., return at 11 p.m., with the show starting at 6:30 p.m. Tony Hawk, as well as other various skateboarding and BMX celebrities will be on site to demonstrate multiple non-stop action. Cost, which includes transportation and entry, is \$70 per person.

The Price is Right game show trip is Oct. 13. The trip departs ITT at 10 a.m. and returns at approximately 10 p.m. Cost is \$20.

Trip to the Tonight Show starring Jay Leno is Oct. 15. The trip departs ITT at noon, for a 4:30 p.m. taping and returns at approximately 10 p.m. Following the taping will be an opportunity to have dinner, shop or browse at Universal City Walk. Cost is \$15 per person. Members must be at least 18 years old.

Trip to the Wayne Brady Show is Oct. 16. The ITT bus will depart at 9 a.m., returning at approximately 3:30 p.m. Trips to the Wayne Brady Show will provide Edwards an opportunity to get group seating for tapings of this season's American Idol. Cost is \$10 per person. Members must be at least 18 years old.

Oasis Community Center

205 W. Popson Ave., 275-CNTR

Swing dance lessons are Tuesday, 6 to 7:30 p.m. This is a six-week class that is scheduled for every Tuesday evening through October and into November. Learn East Coast Swing and the Lindy Hop. Attendees are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing and leather shoes with a slick sole.

Teen Center

1100 Kincheloe Ave., 275-TEEN

Movie day is today, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Keystone jam family three-on-three basketball tournament is Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Career Exploration Club meeting is Monday, 3:30 p.m.

Keystone Club meeting is Wednesday, 12:30 p.m., at Desert High School.

Torch Club meeting is Wednesday, 3:30 p.m.

Youth Activities Center

24 Lathrop Dr., 275-KIDS

YAC Ball is today, 3:30p.m. Join in on the youth center signature game.

The 4H meeting is Monday, 3:30p.m.

Youth bowling is Tuesday, 3:15 to 4:30 p.m.

Crafty kids is Tuesday and Thursday, 3:30 to 5 p.m.

Torch Club election day is Wednesday, 3:30 p.m. Come support your Torch Club members.

Yu-Gi-Oh trading card tournament is Thursday, 3:30 p.m. Join in on the challenge or just watch the action at the Yu-Gi-Oh table.

Joshua Tree Inn dining facility menu

Today:

Lunch

Swiss steak

Stuffed green peppers

Mexican baked chicken

Baked fish

Dinner

Lasagna

Spaghetti with meat sauce

Sweet Italian sausage

Saturday:

Lunch

Ribeye steak

Cajun meatloaf

Crispy baked chicken

Baked fish

Dinner

Stir fry chicken

Pork chops

Fish almondine

Sunday:

Lunch

Sauerbraten

Baked tuna and noodles

Chicken breast parmesan

Dinner

Fried shrimp

Spinach lasagna

Ginger barbecue chicken

Monday:

Lunch

Baked chicken

Swiss steak

Sweet Italian sausage

Dinner

Baked ham

Fish and fries

Roast turkey

Chicken Cordon Bleu

Tuesday:

Lunch

Onion lemon baked fish

Yakisoba beef

Pork schnitzel

Dinner

Barbecue beef cubes

Chicken fajitas

Paprika beef

Wednesday:

Lunch: Southern Meal

Barbecue spareribs

Southern fried chicken

Fried Catfish

Dinner

Country fried steak

Fried chicken

Pita pizza

Thursday:

Lunch

Liver and onions

Orange spiced pork chops

Tempura fried fish

Banana splits

Dinner

Pasta primavera

Pepper steak

Mr. Z's baked chicken



(Information courtesy of the
95th Services Division)



POLICE *BLOTTER*

The 95th Security Forces Squadron reports the following incidents for Sept. 24 through Tuesday

Medical responses

- Paramedics responded to G area housing for a medical emergency. The individual was treated on scene.
- Paramedics responded to south base for a medical emergency. An individual fell and was injured. The individual was treated and released.
- Paramedics responded to C area housing for a medical emergency. The individual was transported to Antelope Valley Hospital.
- Paramedics responded to E area housing for a medical emergency. A child was having difficulty breathing and was transported to Antelope Valley Hospital.

Patrol responses

- Patrols responded to the south gate for a report of an individual driving under the influence.
- Patrols responded to F area housing for a report of malicious mischief. An individual reported someone had damaged their front yard. An investigation is pending.
- Patrols responded to the north gate for a report of a civil arrest warrant. The individual was turned over to the local law enforcement.
- Patrols responded to C area housing for a report of a domestic disturbance. The individual's first sergeant took control of the situation.

Thefts

- An individual reported theft of government property from building 1630. An investigation is pending.

Traffic incidents

- An individual driving a government vehicle struck a trailer while backing up.
- An individual struck another vehicle while parking at building 2425.
- An individual was struck in the intersection of a four-way stop.

Walk-in complaints

- An individual made a walk-in complaint about a physical altercation. An investigation is pending.

*(Information compiled by Brandi Kizzer,
95th SFS Reports and Analysis.)*

Airmen Against Drunk Driving

*Don't get caught
drinking and driving ...
you can't afford it.*

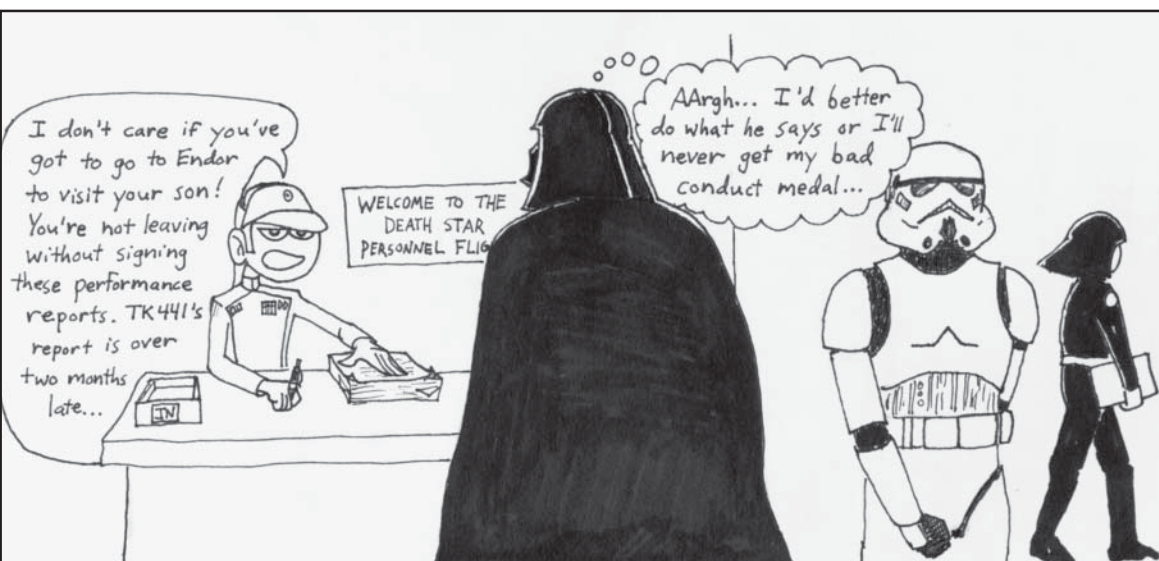
*Make the call,
277-6006, for safe
transportation. Open
to all active duty,
dependents and Department of Defense
civilians. To get involved, call AADD.*





Sanity Checklist ...

By 1st Lt. James McQueen



Commander's Access Channel

Air Force Television News
5, 6, 8 and 11 a.m., noon, 5, 6 and 11 p.m.

POW/MIA Day Luncheon
10 a.m.

POW/MIA Day Flag Retreat Ceremony
3 p.m.

Home Fire Extinguishers — When and How to Use Them
7 p.m.

Navy/Marine Corps News
10 p.m.

National Anthem — Edwards Air Force Base
7 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Video programming will be suspended during emergencies

Channel

6

NEW Word of the week

Cogitate

(koj' i tāt') verb — 1. to ponder; meditate. 2. to think about; devise.

Usage

Sparky cogitates his future weekend activities.

Today in History

- 1739 Russia signs a treaty with the Turks, ending a three-year conflict between the two countries.
- 1776 Congress borrows five million dollars to halt the rapid depreciation of paper money in the colonies.
- 1862 At the Battle of Corinth, in Mississippi, a Union army defeats the Confederates. A Rebel battery's first salvo was the prelude to the Battle of Shiloh, near Corinth.
- 1940 U.S. Army adopts airborne, or parachute, soldiers. Airborne troops were later used in World

- War II for landing troops in combat and infiltrating agents into enemy territory.
- 1942 Germany conducts the first successful test flight of a V-2 missile, which flies perfectly over a 118-mile course. When the anticipated invasion of Britain failed to materialize in 1940, Londoners relaxed, but soon they faced a frightening new threat.
- 1944 German troops evacuate Athens, Greece.
- 1990 After 40 years of division, East and West Germany are reunited as one nation.

(Information courtesy of www.historynet.com)

On-base movies of the week

The base theater is located on the corner of Yeager Boulevard and South Muroc Drive. Movies begin at 7 p.m. and tickets are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children unless otherwise stated. Wednesday is family night, admission is \$1. For movie information, call 275-SHOW. Schedule submitted by AAFES and is subject to change. (Information and photos courtesy of www.movieweb.com)

Freddy vs. Jason



Playing: Today, Monday and Thursday

Rated: R

Run time: 97 min.

Cast: Robert Englund and Ken Kirzinger

Summary: Freddy Krueger (played by Englund) is in hell — literally. It's been nearly ten years since Krueger invaded peoples' dreams to exact his deadly form of revenge and murder. But now, his memory has been systematically erased by a town determined to put an end to Krueger. Potential victims have been drugged to prevent them from dreaming, rendering Krueger helpless.

Until, that is, Freddy resurrects Jason Voorhees (played by Kirzinger). Jason is the perfect means for Freddy to once again instill fear on Elm Street, creating a window of opportunity for him to emerge from his purgatory. Recognizing how easily manipulated Jason is, Freddy tricks Voorhees into journeying to Springwood to start a new reign of terror.

But as the bodies begin to pile up on Elm Street, he discovers that Jason isn't willing to cease his murderous ways and step aside so easily. Now the two titans of terror enter into a horrifying showdown of epic proportions.

S.W.A.T.

Playing: Saturday and Wednesday

Rated: PG-13

Run time: 118 min.

Cast: Samuel L. Jackson and Colin Farrell

Summary: Inspired by the popular '70s television series, Jim Street (played by Farrell), is thrown off the S.W.A.T. team in the aftermath of a controversial decision they made during a robbery/hostage standoff. Gamble, his partner, quits the force in disgust, but for Street, being a policeman is his life and he agrees to a demotion.

Street gets that chance when team commander Dan "Hondo" Harrelson (played by Jackson) is assigned to recruit and train five top-notch cops for a new S.W.A.T. unit.

After weeks of demanding physical training, the new S.W.A.T. team is quickly thrown into action when a notorious drug lord audaciously offers a \$100 million bounty to anyone who can free him from police custody. As they escort the kingpin out of Los Angeles and into the hands of the Feds, they are pursued by a ruthless and well-armed band of mercenaries.



Open Range



Playing: Sunday and Tuesday

Rated: R

Run time: 145 min.

Cast: Kevin Costner and Robert Duvall

Summary: Charley Waite (played by Costner) and Boss Spearman (played by Duvall) are men trying to escape their pasts. They say the one place where a man can be free is on the open range, driving cattle in a land where nature makes the only laws. Bound to each other by the "Code of the West" — standing up for what's right, showing loyalty to those closest to you — the cowboys try to avoid violence. But one frontier town that rules through fear and tyranny changes their lives and forces them into action.

Amidst this turmoil, life suddenly takes an unexpected turn for loner Charley when he meets the spirited Sue Barlow, a woman who embraces both his heart and his soul. As these courageous men prepare for the decisive battle that looms, they are also forced to confront and conquer their own internal demons.



Hispanic Heritage Month crossword puzzle

By 1st Lt. Tony Wickman
Alaskan Command Public Affairs

ACROSS

1. Hispanic Baseball great Roberto _____
7. Hispanic actress Selma
10. Fireman tool
11. Male pig
14. Crafts partner
15. Salve
16. Baseball stat
18. Premature
21. NBC TV show
22. Lord of the Rings character
24. Joined ends
27. Desire
29. SecDec's office (abbrev.)

Sept. 26 Answers

E	A	G	L	E	C	L	A	W		M	U	L	E
L		A	L	O	U		C	O	R	A	L	S	
B	L	A	D	D	E	R	S		A	R	G	Y	L
I		D	O	S		L	E	N	S	E	S		A
L	E	V	E	R		Y	Y	E	N				
D		R	A	M	S		O	T	E	A	L		
F			D	I	N	S		N	A	F			I
D	O	E		O	S	L	O				U		N
E	R	A	S		T	R			R	A	G	E	
A	C	T		L	B	E	R	R	Y			B	
E		S	C	E	N	E				S		A	
N		F	O	R	T		T	I	D	E		T	O
O	P	I	N	I	O	N		N	I	L		O	R
D	E	L	I	B	E	R	A	T	E	F	O	R	C
S	P	E	C	S		A		O				M	A

31. Mexican food item
32. Ancient Peruvian culture
33. Medal of Honor recipient for action in WWII Aleutians Joe____
37. 1968 Hispanic Nobel Prize winner Luis _____
39. Organ for listening
40. Lyrical poem
41. Geek
44. Def. Grp. in charge of special projects
45. Type of tide
47. Military move
49. Middle East country _____ Dhab
50. First Hispanic female astronaut Ellen _____
53. Pierce
56. Swiss mountain
57. Stick
59. Cosmetics company
62. Henry _____; first Hispanic to run Housing & Urban Dev.
63. Young horse
64. Boxing outcome
65. Actor Greene
66. Leeward side

DOWN

1. Hispanic civil/labor rights _____

2. Military punishment?
3. Hispanic singer Gloria
4. Arizona town
5. Christmas carol
6. Fall
7. 2001: A Space Odyssey computer
8. Appendage
9. Look
12. Horse food
13. Hispanic Rep. from CA's 18th District Dennis _____
17. Actress Witherspoon
19. Affirmative
20. Inhabitant
23. Hawaiian gift
25. Cat's sound
26. Able to
28. Watch face?
30. License place?
34. Retiree group (abbrev.)
35. X
36. Hispanic Academy Award winner Benicio _____ (two words)
37. Computes
38. Meadow
42. Actor Stephen
43. Pat
46. Hispanic band leader Tito _____

1	2	3	4		5		6		7	8		9		
10							11	12						13
14							15					16	17	
		18				19					20		21	
22	23							24	25			26		
27			28		29		30				31			
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				47	48							49		
50		51				52		53	54		55			
		56				57	58				59	60	61	
		62									63			
	64					65					66			

47. Condition that affected FDR
48. Hats
51. Cut
52. Mocks
53. Opening
54. Singer John _____; Live at
- Red Rocks
55. John P. _____, Hispanic Medal of Honor recipient for Vietnam
58. Mining goal
60. Radio button (abbrev.)
61. Bull fight cheer

Olympic hopeful swims, trains at aquatic center

By Airman 1st Class
Mark Woodbury
Public Affairs

“This girl is going to make it,” said Lisa Petrey, summer lifeguard for the Oasis Aquatic and Aerobic Center about the Olympic hopeful she sees train there daily.

Jennifer Binnie, a 15-year-old local swimmer, has made it her goal to be an Olympic swimmer one day. Jennifer has found help with her goal by using Edwards’ Oasis Aquatic and Aerobic Center pool during the morning hours.

“To make this kind of goal is one thing; it is, however, a whole different idea to dedicate your life to your goal,” said Petrey. “Jennifer has made the decision to dedicate her life to this, and to do this at the age of 15 is amazing to me.”

To accomplish this goal, Jennifer’s daily morning routine consists of a 30 minute warm-up, 16 sets of 50 meter fly kick stroke within 20 minutes, 10 sets at 75 meters (50 meters of the freestyle stroke, and 25 meters of the fly kick stroke, finishing with 10 sets at 75 meters (25 meters at an all-out pace using the fly stroke and 50 meters at an easy pace using the freestyle stroke). Just watching Jennifer go through her morning routine is enough to make any



Photo by Airman 1st Class Mark Woodbury

Jennifer Binnie, an Olympic hopeful, trains daily to better her times before her next competition. She found a home at the Oasis Aquatic and Aerobic Center pool for her morning swim workouts.

person tired.

Jennifer then pulls down a day of home taught school, where her mother, who plays a key role in her swimming success, teaches her the things she needs to know in order to get into her college of choice, Stanford. She made the decision to go to Stanford after attending a

summer swimming camp held there. Jennifer said she was able to see the program from a hands-on perspective and liked the mentality that Stanford brings to swimming.

“Stanford is where all great swimmers want to go,” said Jennifer. “Stanford has produced count-

less Olympians. I know going there would put me that much closer to my Olympic goal.”

Jennifer finishes her day with 2 to 3 hours of team training with Lancaster’s Oasis swim team. Jennifer repeats much of her same morning routine, along with competing and racing against other

swimmers on the team to keep the competitive edge, she said. This is the time when she competes against her older brother, Jonathan, whose swimming pushes Jennifer to times she is looking to accomplish in competitions.

“It is nice to see a brother-sister relationship that works like this,” said Bud Binnie, Jennifer’s mother. “Jonathan has become a great driving force in Jennifer’s training. What is really nice to see, is that he is always happy to see Jennifer succeed.”

It seems that whatever Jennifer touches turns to gold. The only obstacle she has encountered in her swimming is funding, her mom said. To accomplish her goal is not a cheap endeavor.

“We are always looking for someone that is interested in helping Jennifer with her goal,” said Bud Binnie. “To find someone to sponsor her would be a great blessing. She has the talent and drive to accomplish her dreams, but to have someone help fund her dream would allow doors to be opened that are presently closed.”

If you are interested in sponsoring Jennifer, you can contact Lisa Mills, director of the Oasis Aquatic and Aerobic Center at 275-SWIM.

5K to raise cancer awareness

By Airman 1st Class Mark Woodbury
Public Affairs

“Cancer is a nondiscriminatory disease,” said Carla Cannington, Federal Women’s Program manager and sponsor of the 5th annual breast cancer awareness 5K fun run/walk. “It is uncommon today not to know someone personally who has been effected by cancer. This event is held so those that have been affected by this disease, in one way or another, can stop and remember the importance of finding a cure for this illness.”

The 5K fun run/walk registration is being held on-site Thursday at the Oasis Community Center at 7:15 a.m. The opening ceremony will start at 7:30 a.m. It will highlight the history of the race and highlight stories of those locally who have overcome cancer and steps to help those that have been affected by the disease. Following the opening ceremony, the 5K run/walk will start at the OCC and will follow a marked course that will circle the participants back to the OCC.

Awards will be given in the categories of: first place female walker, first place male walker, first place female runner, first place male runner and first place squadron.

In years past, the 5K run/walk has brought out about 200 participants. Cannington is hoping that this year’s numbers will be the best in the history of the event. “The more people we can get to the event, the greater chance we have to educate people concerning the effects of cancer.”

Booths, manned by Edwards’ clinic representatives, will be at the 5K run/walk with cancer awareness information.

“I am excited for this year’s event. I am proud to be a part of an event that is designed to help people gain a greater awareness about a disease that affects millions,” said Irene Lucas, the office manager for the 95th mission support group. “I hope that people can take the time out of their schedules to support a cause that is as important as this one. Everyone in the past is always glad they took the time to participate.

The sad reality is that one out of every eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer, according to Cannington.

“Cancer is a survivable disease, but we really need to find a cure,” said Cannington. “We hope, in some small way, that this event can help make a step in the right direction to find a cure for breast cancer.”



Photo by Airman 1st Class Mark Woodbury

Swinging for the fence

Softball is in full swing. Playoffs have started and the teams are playing a double elimination tournament to see which team will take home Edwards’ softball title. For more information about sporting events on base, call the Fitness and Sports Center at 275-GYM.



Edwards runners place well at Air Force marathon

By 2nd Lt. Lara Coppinger
419th Flight Test Squadron

It was one of those mornings when the fog was so thick you could see it on your eyelashes in big thick drops. A perfect morning for running; you don't want to take your sweats off because it's a bit too cold, but once your blood starts pumping you couldn't ask for better weather.

The gun sounded at 7:05 a.m. Sept. 20, marking the start of the seventh annual United States Air Force marathon. Rich Shertzer and John Sherer, members of the Edwards team, were out to run 26.2 miles of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, pavement, while their teammates geared up to tackle the relay.

The relay consisted of four legs over the marathon course, *Leg 1*: 5 miles, *Leg 2*: 7 miles, *Leg 3*: 7.5 miles and *Leg 4*: 6.7 miles. Edwards sponsored two relay teams that were accompanied by one more team from the rocket lab, the "Rockettes".

The previous year, the "Edwards Runners," an all female

team took third for the women's relay. The goal this year was to take first. The 2003 team consisted of some of Edwards military runners, Michelle Heagney, Amie Tavanese, Amy Shertzer and myself.

The team accomplished what they came out to do in the fourth leg of the relay when Shertzer passed the women's team in the lead for a winning time of 3:02:29 and an overall team pace of 6:58 minutes per mile. Not only did the team place first in the women's relay category, it also placed an astonishing eleventh overall out of 185 relay teams.

The second relay team, following close behind, was made up of: Elizabeth Maas, Chris Charles, Greg Cavallaro and Marcus Carroll.

Sherer also had an impressive showing placing third in his age group and thirty-seventh overall out of over 1,200 participants with a time of 3:04:53. He was followed by teammate Shertzer, running a personal best of 3:40:56 and placing thirteenth in his age division.

Briefs

Football Frenzy is Monday in Fogleman's Lounge. Doors open at 5 p.m., games begin at 6 p.m. Members have the opportunity to win football trips to Tampa Bay, the Super Bowl or the Pro Bowl, along with instant prizes awarded in half-time games. Cook-your-own-steak dinner is offered at 5 p.m. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for eligible non-members.

The fifth annual breast cancer awareness 5K fun run and walk is Thursday, at the Oasis Community Center. Registration begins at 7:15 a.m., opening ceremony starts at 7:30 a.m. and the race begins at 7:45 a.m. For more information, call Irene Lucas at 277-0440.

The Edwards First Sergeants Association 6th Annual Gary A. Powell 5K Fun/Run is Nov. 7 at 8 a.m. in front of the Base Exchange. The funds raised go to support the holiday food basket program. The cost is \$12 in advance, through Oct. 15, and \$15 after that date. T-shirts are provided to each participant. To sign up, go through your assigned first sergeant.

Fitness and Sports Center

210 W. Popson Ave., 275-GYM1

Strongest man and strongest woman competition is Oct. 11, 2 p.m. at the fitness center track. Events include the: sledge hammer throw, tire flip, farmer walk, wheel barrow load and carry, van pull, and one-on-one tug of war. There will be a pre-competition briefing at 1 p.m. Deadline for registration is Monday. No entry fee required.

Muroc Lake Golf Course

111 Crest Dr., 275-PUTT

Opening hours for the golf course are changing until Monday. The golf course will open at 7

a.m. until Monday, then the golf course will open at 7:30 a.m. Tee times are taken during the first hour.

Outdoor Recreation

1100 Kincheloe Ave., 275-CAMP

New vehicle storage lot is located in front of ODR. There are 160 spots now available to all Edwards' personnel for \$5 to \$10 per month.

AWARE Coral Reef Conservation Scuba Specialty Course is Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. The course is designed to allow you to dive with an AWARE diver. AWARE is a non-diver specialty course that is concerned about the plight of the worldwide aquatic eco-systems and providing means for their protection. Cost is \$90.

Climbing 101 courses is being held Wednesday, Thursday and Oct. 15. Climbing Sessions: Adults, ages 16 and up: Wednesday and Thursday, 4 to 6 p.m. Cost is \$15 per person. Youth, ages 6 through 15: Wednesday, 4 to 6 p.m. Cost is \$5 per person. This is the last evening class offered until April.

Marine Management Specialty Course is Thursday at 5:30 p.m. This specialty course offers practical tools to teach environmental skills to divers, such as low impact diving techniques. Cost is \$165 per person.

Haunted Hay and Pony Rides is Oct. 18 from 5 to 9 p.m. Pony rides and barbecue offered by OR staff. Cost is \$4 for children, \$4.50 for adults.



New ribbon recognizes deployed airmen

By Master Sgt. Randy L. Mitchell

Air Force Personnel Center
Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche has approved award of the Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon to recognize military members' support of air expeditionary force deployments.

The ribbon will be awarded to Air Force active-duty, Reserve and Guard members who completed a contingency deployment after Oct. 1, 1999, according to officials.

"Deployed status is defined as either deployment on contingency, exercise, deployment orders or members sourced in direct support, in theater or out, of

expeditionary operations with an overnight (stay) away from home station," said Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Simmons. He is the superintendent of the awards and decorations section at the Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph.

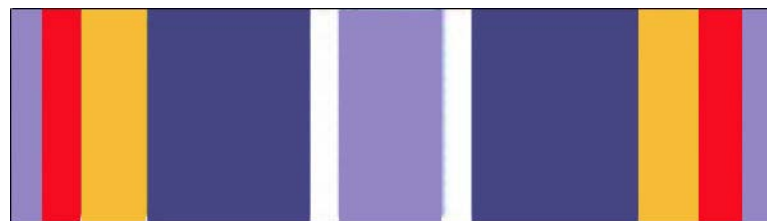
To qualify for the award, individuals must have deployed for 45 consecutive days or 90 nonconsecutive days.

"Any contingency deployment qualifies regardless of the duty, destination or location of the temporary duty, including those within the continental United States," Simmons said.

There is also no time limit to accumulate the 90 nonconsecutive days.

"People will continue accumulating contingency (temporary duty) days until they reach

90 days," he said. "Every consecutive 45 days, regardless of TDY length, counts toward an additional ribbon. For example, 90 consecutive days of TDY



Graphic by Airman 1st Class Mark Woodbury

The Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon has been approved to recognize servicemembers' support of recent deployments.

qualifies an individual for two (ribbons); 180 consecutive days qualifies him or her for four ribbons," he said.

Permanent-party people overseas are not eligible for the ribbon, unless they are forward-deployed on a contingency de-

ployment, according to Simmons. People deployed on an overseas short tour may receive both the expeditionary ribbon and the Overseas Short Tour

Ribbon, providing they meet the requirements for both, he said.

To receive the award, people should report to their serving military personnel flight once they return from deployment to validate entitlement to the rib-

bon, Simmons said. People must present a copy of their deployment orders and completed travel voucher; any citations or certificates received while deployed may also help prove entitlement.

"If the special order doesn't identify the TDY as a contingency deployment, the current squadron commander may validate (the ribbon) entitlement by evaluating the request and verifying any supporting documentation," Simmons said. "If necessary, (the commander) may also contact other people with first-hand knowledge of the member's deployment."

"The commander would then provide a memorandum to the (military personnel flight) validating the TDY and how many days the individual was deployed," he said.

Fighters benefit from Link 16

By 2nd Lt. Martha L. Petersante
Electronic Systems Center Public Affairs

HANSCOM AIR FORCE BASE, Mass. (AFPN) — A recent Electronic Systems Center effort has improved targeting accuracy and allowed air operations centers to change F-15 Eagle and F-15E Strike Eagle mission variables "on the fly."

Members of the Tactical Data Link System Program Office equipped all 22 operational F-15 active-duty and Air National Guard squadrons — more than 600 F-15s — with Link 16 Fighter Data Link terminals.

"[Link 16 is a] secure, jam-resistant, data-link system used to share tactically useful information among F-15s, other fighters, and sensor and command and control platforms," said Gordy Van Guilder. He is the F-15 fielding lead for the TDL program office. "With these improvements to information sharing [compared to voice], F-15s can better execute their air-to-air and air-to-ground missions."

Following the events of Sept. 11, 2001, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper realized the potential for this system to aid the Air Force's warfighting capability and initiated a directive to outfit all Strike Eagles with FDL. He also mandated that one unit be made ready for operations in Afghanistan within a month of the attacks.

Training squadrons are now receiving the link and are expected to be fully functional by the second quarter of 2004, said Lt. Col. Anita Latin, program office director.

"Link 16's major objective is to deliver the right information at the right time in the right place to the right people. This allows the warfighter to enter and successfully achieve the find, fix, track, target, engage and assess kill chain," Latin said.

This technology allows the aircrew to receive up-to-date information, which enhances mission performance. For example, Van Guilder said if there is a change in weather, threats

or targets, the command and control platforms can feed changes via the datalink directly to the cockpit. F-15 pilots can also now exchange information on their own positions and what they have detected with their radars to improve mutual support and enhance targeting.

Speaking about Operation Iraqi Freedom, Jumper said, "What you used to have to convey verbally at great inefficiency is now represented to you in this digital format on your screen. And digital messages and codes are used to give you very precise information. All of that makes target location just that much easier."

Fighter Data Link was specifically designed for and tested on the F-15. The system in the F-15 consists of the installed terminal and its integration with existing avionics, displays and controls.

Electronic Systems Center workers here played a critical role in the acceleration of Link 16 into the F-15E. Just 15 days after they received the go-ahead from the commander of Air Combat Command, crews took the first flight, officials said.

"However [the process was sped up because it] was operationally necessary to support Operation Enduring Freedom," Van Guilder said.

When F-15 units were tasked for operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom, the fielding team adjusted priorities and schedules to ensure all F-15 units deployed and successfully employed the data-link capability. This significant effort included on-site support to the rapid acceleration of two F-15E squadrons at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C.

"It is almost as important as having a radar or electronic countermeasures before going into the [area of responsibility]. We leave mark points for each other as one flight is entering and the other is egressing," said Lt. Col. Steve Hughes, 4th Fighter Wing chief of weapons and tactics at Seymour Johnson. "We thread through the tanker tracks and congested airspace [more safely] than ever before and share designations between flight members."

Air Force briefs

For up-to-the-minute information on what's going on around the Air Force, log onto the Air Force News Page at www.af.mil/news.

Assignment listing available soon

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — The Enlisted Quarterly Assignment Listing for airmen returning from overseas February to April will be available Oct. 14.

Individuals need to work through their military personnel flight or their commander's support staff to update their preferences by Oct. 30, said officials at the Air Force Personnel Center here. Airmen will be notified of their selection by mid-November.

EQUAL advertises upcoming assignment requirements by Air Force specialty code and rank. Airmen should review, prioritize and update their assignment preferences based on the list, officials said.

Airmen can view the lists from the AFPC home page at <https://afas.afpc.randolph.af.mil/amsweb/master.cfm> or at their local MPF. Those on temporary duty during the advertised period can contact the nearest personnel office for assistance.

AFPC offers enlisted promotion tips

SAN ANTONIO (AFPN) — Officials at the Air Force Personnel Center have released a list of things airmen should focus on to give themselves the best possible chance for promotion.

Officials advise airmen to start preparing for promotion early, not get lax in study habits, and ensure study materials are current.

To learn more about how to be suc-

cessful in the Weighted Airman Promotion System, visit <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/pubaffairs/release/2003/09/EnlPromo.htm>.

Tyndall receives first Raptor

TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. (AFPN) — The first operational F/A-22 Raptor was delivered to the Air Force's F/A-22 schoolhouse here Sept. 26.

Tyndall, once known as "The Home of Air Superiority" became "The Home of Air Dominance," with the arrival of its first F/A-22. The Raptor will eventually replace the F-15 Eagle and sets the foundation for the next generation of combat-fighter pilots.

Lt. Col. Jeffrey Harrigian, commander of the 43rd Fighter Squadron here, flew "Raptor 18" from the Lockheed Martin Corp. assembly plant in Marietta, Ga., to Tyndall. Harrigian's squadron will train future F/A-22 pilots.

The F/A-22 is a critical component of the Global Strike Task Force designed to project air dominance, rapidly and at great distances, to counter and defeat threats that will attempt to deny access to our forces. The F/A-22 cannot be matched by any known or projected adversary fighter aircraft.

The 325th FW, which trains F-15 pilots, air-battle managers, intelligence officers and air traffic controllers, was officially selected as the site for the F/A-22 pilot training program in August 2000.

Tyndall is expected to receive 50 Raptors over the next several years.